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STATUS OF USSR PEAT INDUSTRY AT END OF 1953 AND TASKS FOR 1954Torfyannaya Promyshlennost', No 1  
Moscow, Jan 1954

The peat industry of the Ministry of Electric Power Stations and Electrical Industry USSR has, in recent years, achieved a further increase in peat extraction and in mechanization of a considerable part of labor-consuming operations. However, in 1953, unfavorable weather conditions made it impossible for the majority of peat enterprises of Glavtorf (Main Administration of Peat Industry) to fulfill the year plan for basic indexes. This is forcing workers of the peat industry to carry out measures for increasing the extraction of peat under any weather conditions.

Glavtorf completed the 1953 plan for gross peat production 91.5 percent, including lump peat 104.6 percent and milled peat 78.1 percent.

Rainy weather persisted in a number of areas during the decisive months for the extraction, drying, and gathering of peat. Consequently, 26.3 percent of all lump peat extracted by the enterprises was inadequately dried.

Enterprises of the Leningrad Peat Trust did particularly unsatisfactory work in the fulfillment of the plan for gross output, achieving a figure of only 62.8 percent. Other lagging trusts were the Yaroslavl' Peat Trust, with an achievement of 78.6 percent; the Kalinin Peat Trust, with 80.5 percent; and the Ivanovo Peat Trust, with 89.7 percent.

Although Glavtorf as a whole failed to fulfill the 1953 plan for peat output, some peat trusts did fulfill the plan: the Kirov Peat Trust, with an achievement of 138.4 percent; the Sverdlovsk Peat Trust, with 113.0 percent; the Belorussian Peat Trust, with 103.4 percent; the Lithuanian Peat Trust, with 105.2 percent; and the Gor'kiy Peat Trust, with 106.2 percent.

The directors of some peat enterprises have not properly organized the technological process for extracting and drying peat and have not put the drying system in order. The drains in the Naziya and Tesovo I enterprises of the Leningrad trust were poorly made and exploited, which was also the case in the Dunilovskiy enterprise of the Yaroslavl' trust and the Gusev enterprise of the Ivanovo trust.

The failure to supply peat enterprises with fields was a contributing factor to the failure to fulfill the plan for extracting milled peat. As of 1 June 1953, peat enterprises had only 94.5 percent of the required amount of fields. The following peat trusts experienced the greatest shortage, receiving only the following percentages of their requirements: the Lithuanian Peat Trust, 61.7; the Belorussian Peat Trust, 83.5; the Yaroslavl' Peat Trust, 93; and the Shatura Peat Trust, 96.3.

Peat enterprises coped more successfully with the delivery of peat to consumers, fulfilling the 1953 plan 101.3 percent,

Despite the indicated failures in the fulfillment of the plan for peat output, the past year marked a further increase in mechanization of production processes. Operations for extracting, drying, and gathering milled peat were completely mechanized. All peat extracted by the excavator method was spread out by machines on the drying fields. Mechanization of pipe transfer by MPT machines for hydropeat has increased to 40.2 percent, and 25.3 percent of all extracted

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lump peat was gathered by UKB-TUM and UKB-SKS machines as against 13.8 percent in 1952. The extraction of milled peat by the UPF-2 and PUM-3e electrical machines has also increased considerably.

UKB-TUM machines operated successfully at the Orkhovo, Kirov, and Gor'kiy peat enterprises, where the plan for mechanized gathering was exceeded. Mechanized gathering of lump peat by UKB-TUM machines proceeded badly in peat enterprises of the Leningrad, Kalinin, Yaroslavl', and Ivanovo trusts. The chief reason for this was the unsatisfactory preparation of the fields and the long periods the machines were idle because the peat was in an unsuitable condition for gathering. The UKB-TUM machines were particularly ineffectual in the Gusev and the Markovo-Sbornyy enterprises of the Ivanovo trust, the Vasil'yevskiy Mokh enterprise of the Kalinin trust, and the Tesovo I and Naziya enterprises of the Leningrad trust.

The level of mechanized transfer of pipes reached 40.2 percent in the 1953 season instead of the 70 percent fixed by the plan. The main reasons for this failure were as follows: the unsatisfactory preparation of the flood fields for the normal transfer of machines; many idle periods for the machines, amounting to 66.7 percent of the entire time; inadequate qualifications of personnel who serviced the MPT machines; and tardiness in delivery of machines from the Kuznetsk Machinery Plant.

To cope successfully with the plan for extracting hydropeat in 1954, directors of peat enterprises must, in the first place, put drying networks into dependable order in sections where peat is to be dried.

As was indicated above, a large amount of lump peat remained undried and ungathered in the 1953 season. In 1954, where lump peat is gathered by machinery, it will be necessary to gather incompletely dried peat also by mechanized methods.

The chief task of workers of the peat industry in 1954 is not only the completion of the fixed plan for peat output, but also the further mechanization of production processes, the assurance of increased performance per machine and per worker, improvement in work organization for all links of the technological process, and assurance of continued delivery of peat to electric power stations and other consumers.

In 1954, the level of mechanization of gathering lump peat by UKB-TUM and UKB-SKS machines should reach 52 percent as against an actual 1953 achievement of 25.3 percent.

To assure fulfillment of the plan by peat enterprises, it is necessary to prepare operators for the machines, to arrange for high-grade and properly timed repair of the UKB-TUM and UKB-SKS machines, to uproot stumps and level the surface of the fields, to check the condition of the drains, and in some cases to carry out secondary drainage.

In 1954, the stock of electric machines for extracting milled peat is to be doubled, which means that peat enterprises must prepare peat fields promptly and construct electric lines, reducer substations, and working lines with outlets.

In 1954, the mechanized transfer of pipes for hydropeat should increase to 2.25 times the 1953 level.

An increase in the level of mechanization of production processes in 1954 should increase the performance per worker 20.6 percent and decrease production costs of peat 11.6 percent below the actual indexes for 1953.

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Up to now, problems dealing with the complete mechanization of cleaning trenches, uprooting stumps, and leveling the surface of fields have not been solved. These tasks take up the time of about 40 percent of the auxiliary personnel in the extraction of milled peat.

As of 1 January 1954, peat enterprises of Glavtorf had fulfilled the annual plan for the repair of machines for the haulage of pipes 94.6 percent, and for the repair of the TEMP-2 excavator 96.6 percent. The Orekhovo and Kirov peat trusts are lagging particularly in the repair of machines for pipe haulage, fulfilling the plan only 66.7 percent and 50 percent, respectively.

The plan for preparing new piling for hydropeat enterprises was fulfilled 81 percent, and the plan for driving in piling, 92 percent. Peat trusts which failed to fulfill the plan for driving in piling were the Chernoramskiy with a fulfillment of 84 percent; the Gor'kiy, 69.5 percent; the Ivanovo, 93.5 percent; the Yaroslavl', 58.4 percent; and the Leningrad, 79.5 percent.

The peat industry had a number of examples of highly productive work in the 1953 peat season: an operator of a UMFF-4 machine of the Belaya Vaka peat enterprise fulfilled his season norm 293.8 percent; an operator of the same type of machine of the Zenginskiy peat enterprise fulfilled his norm 234.0 percent; two UMFF-4 operators of the Karinskiy peat enterprise fulfilled their season quotas 223.5 percent and 211.3 percent, respectively. An operator of an UPF machine in the Karinskiy peat enterprise with his assistant fulfilled the season quota 228.4 percent; two operators of a UKB-SKS unit of the Monetnyy peat enterprise fulfilled the plan for their unit 148.3 percent.

As a result of socialist competition, workers were awarded titles of Best Operators by Glavtorf and the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Trade Union of Workers of Electric Power Stations and the Electrical Industry as follows: 134 operators of UMFF machines, 22 groups for the mechanized gathering of lump peat by the UKB-TUM and the UKB-SKS machines, and 12 groups for the mechanized transfer of temporary tracks by PPR-2 machines.

In 1953, the plan for organized recruitment of manpower was fulfilled only 86 percent. As a result, a number of enterprises, such as the Naziya, Tesovo I, Irinovskiy, Chernoramskiy, Demidovskiy, Chisty, Gusev, and Vasil'yevskiy Mokh, were not assured of enough manpower for the season.

The plan for capital construction in the peat industry was fulfilled 90.1 percent in 1953, including bog development work, 99.6 percent; housing construction, 94.5 percent; cultural-public buildings, 113 percent; and industrial and other construction, 80.9 percent.

The following peat trusts performed poorer than the others: the Yaroslavl' trust, which completed the plan for the period 91.8 percent; the Kalinin trust, 91.3 percent; the Gor'kiy trust, 84.6 percent; and the Gortorfostroy trust, 76.1 percent.

The unsatisfactory fulfillment of construction plans in peat enterprises is caused not only by inadequate preparation for winter, but also by poor organization of work and of the working area in a number of construction projects, and by the absence of set schedules for production operations.

Despite a decrease in the number of seasonal workers, the peat industry carried out in 1953 an extensive program for housing and cultural-public building construction. During 1953, peat enterprises constructed 48,400 square meters of new housing and 92 cultural-public building projects, which will assure further improvement in the housing and cultural-public building conditions of all workers in peat enterprises. The plan for putting cultural-public buildings into

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use was fulfilled only 98 percent but the plan for housing was fulfilled 100.4 percent. The Gor'kiy, Shatura, and Gortorfostroy trusts did not fulfill the established plan for putting housing into use.

The Qzeretsko-Nepluyevskiy, Radovitskiy, Mokeikha-Zybinskiy, Gusev, and Belaya Vaka construction administrations delayed completing construction of machinery shops, thereby complicating greatly the repair of technological equipment for the 1954 season. Directors of these construction administrations have promised to force the completion of machinery shops in every way, so that peat enterprises may be able to complete the repair of equipment promptly and efficiently.

A number of construction and peat enterprises failed to meet their quotas for the second half of 1953 for the development and putting into use of new milled-peat extraction fields; this will cause difficulties in the 1954 peat season. The greatest lag was shown by the Radovitskiy, Pel'gorskiy, Sormovskiy, Chisto-Borskiy, and Pal'tso construction administrations and the Ryazanovskiy, imeni Klasson, Naziya, Tesovo I, and Varegovo peat enterprises.

The chief tasks of constructors of Glavtorf in 1954 are: completion of the established plan for capital construction for all indexes, further mechanization of construction operations, improvement of work organization and the working areas, assurance of an increase in the performance of workers and constructors, improvement in the quality of performance, and decrease in the costs of construction.

The work of the contract-construction trusts, Mostorfostroy and Gortorfostroy, should be greatly improved. The Yaroslavl', Kalinin, and Gor'kiy peat trusts should also improve their work in the construction of peat enterprises with the use of their own labor.

For a number of skills in the peat industry, awards of orders and medals of the USSR have been established to create a permanent and highly qualified corps of workers, engineers, and technicians, to increase their material well-being, and to assure the high-speed development of the peat industry.

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